

the Arab Desert 20 kilometers east from the Nile about on the 25° N., Egypt, by Dr. L. Horváth, on 29th October, 1957. The type locality is 25° 02' N., 33° 04' E. Measurements: wing, 106 mm.; tail, 68 mm.; tarsus, 24 mm.; bill from skull, 13 mm.

*Remarks:* The deeper and more curved, that is, stronger bill and the grey colour of the upper-parts refer to the effects of its environment. The soil of its habitat is more solid and the colour of the oozy soil of the oasis where it lives is grey.

I have pleasure in naming this new Desert Lark *Ammomanes deserti borosi* in honour of Dr. I. Boros, herpetologist, Chief-Director of the Hungarian National Museum in recognition of his kindness to appointing me as a member of the Museum's first expedition to Africa.

## Two New Races of Larks from the Bechuanaland Protectorate

by MISS MARY L. PATERSON

Received 4th April, 1958

*Certhilauda albofasciata bathoeni*: New race

*Discription:* Compared with *C. a. kalahariae* O. -Grant, overall more rufous, the edges of feathers of the back, the secondaries and wing coverts buffy, not greyish white. The breast and belly deeper rufous, the ear coverts darker, the dark centres of the feathers of the back less distinct, merging more into the general rufous colour. Much lighter in all above respects than *C. a. baddleyi* from Kanye.

*Type:* An adult male N.M.31035 from 57 miles east of Kakia, B.P. 24°16'S: 23°24'E. C. S. Barlow, 1957 Expedition. 15.6.57. Taken on open burnt grassland on red kalahari sand. Gonads enlarged, coming up to breed.

*Measurements:* A series of 6 males and 8 females. Males W.88-94. Av. 91.7; Females W. 81-84 Av. 82.8.

*Distribution:* Only so far known from a belt of open grassland from some 50 to 75 miles east of Kakia on the Kanye road merging into *kalahariae* westwards between Kakia and 50 miles east of Kakia, there being a break in distribution eastwards owing to a wide belt of unsuitable country west of Kanye where on suitable ground *C. a. baddleyi* occurs. There are also two specimens in the British Museum (Natural History) collected on grassland, 32 miles north of Fort Rietfontein which agree with topotypical *C. a. bathoeni* whereas the "Pan" birds from Fort Rietfontein are *C. a. kalahariae*. Mrs. B. P. Hall of the British Museum (Natural History) who kindly examined these birds for me suggests that the range of *C. a. bathoeni* is probably fairly wide in the Kalahari where suitable grasslands are found and that it is ecologically but not necessarily geographically separated from the "Pan" race.

Unlike *C. a. kalahariae* which was closely associated with the salty pans characteristic of the area west of Kakia, this race occurred in the more open patches of grassland with grass up to 3ft. high.

*Remarks:* Named after the Paramount Chief of the Banwaketse, Bathoen II, O.B.E., who kindly granted permission for the expedition to operate in his Territory.

My thanks are due to Mr. R. Smithers and Mrs. B. P. Hall for their help and advice.

*Calandrella cinerea millardi*: New race.

*Description*: By far the palest of all the races of *C. cinerea* characterised by great loss of red pigment. In this race the upper parts have an over-all greyish appearance compared with *C. c. spleniata* which is in comparison buffy. The centres of the feathers of the upper parts, ashy brown, the feather edges grey with only a very faint trace of buff. The crown, sides of breast and upper tail coverts rufous with grey edges to the feathers giving a general greyer appearance as compared to the darker rufous in all other races.

The basic rufous colour of the crown of *C. c. spleniata* corresponding to Villalobos Colour Atlas OOS 11°9. In this new race corresponding to OOS 7°13.

*Type*: Adult female N.M.31095 from Chawe pan, 10 miles north east of Tsane, Bechuanaland Protectorate. C. S. Barlow, 1957 expedition 5.6.57. Wing 88, tail 62, culmen 14, in fresh plumage.

*Measurements*: A series of 12 males and 12 females; Males W. 90-97 Av. 93.5; Females W. 86-90 Av. 88.7.

*Distribution*: The south west Kalahari from Tsabong, Tsane, Kukong as far west as Kakia on open short grassy pans on calcareous ground. Also recorded from Mumpswe on the northern edge of the Makarikari Pan, normally in parties on similar ground.

*Remarks*: Specimens taken at Mumpswe in January, 1957 were in parties with *C. c. anderssoni*. As yet we have no evidence as to either of these races being resident in the Mumpswe area, as this species is known to exhibit considerable local movement.

M. P. Stuart Irwin reports that during a visit to Mumpswe in October during the early part of the visit no Red-cap Larks were seen but quite suddenly large numbers of *C. c. anderssoni* appeared; during this visit no paler specimens were observed in the area. Neither of these races have been found breeding in the Mumpswe area; all specimens being in non-breeding condition.

Named after Mr. John Millard, O.B.E., Divisional Commissioner (Northern Province) Bechuanaland Protectorate, who has assisted us in providing facilities for our work in the B.P.

My thanks are due to Mr. C. M. N. White who has examined a series of *C. c. millardi* and has suggested they be described.

## River Warbler in Switzerland

by DR. JAMES M. HARRISON

*Received 1st March, 1958*

In view of the fact that the River-Warbler, *Locustella fluviatilis* (Wolf) is regarded as of rare, or even doubtful occurrence in Switzerland, the record of an example, a male, which I have in my collection and which was obtained on 3rd August, 1956 at Cossonay, in Canton Vaud is worthy of note.

I received this specimen from the late Ernst Flükiger, of Interlaken and have no reason whatsoever to question its authenticity.